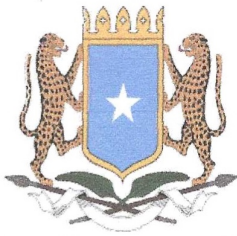


Jamhuuriyada Federalka Soomaaliya
Ergada Joogtada ah ee Qaramada
Midoobey - New York



جمهورية الصومال الفيدرالية
البعثة الدائمة لدى الأمم المتحدة
نيويورك

Federal Republic of Somalia
Permanent Mission to the United Nations
New York

Statement by

H.E Mr. Abukar Dahir Osman
Ambassador Permanent Representative
of the Federal Republic of Somalia
to the United Nations
on Wednesday, September 7th, 2022
at
“Security Council Briefing on Somalia”

Mr. President, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to begin, Sir, to congratulate you on your assumption of the presidency of the Council for this month. I take this opportunity to welcome the newly appointed African Union’s Special Representative to Somalia, Mohammed El-Amine Souef and thank him and UN Special Representative of the Secretary General to Somalia for their briefing on recent development in my country.

Since winning the election, President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud undertook steps to create an environment of unity and reconciliation among all stakeholders and visited three Federal member states: Southwest state, Galmudug state, and Puntland. Furthermore, the President held the first National Consultative Council meeting - laying the road map for the main national priorities. These priorities include finalization of the Provisional Constitution, adopting a unified election model, realizing political and social reconciliations, finalizing federalizing process, and adopting a suitable justice model. The NCC meeting emphasized the essentiality of national unity in achieving all priorities, including improved security and development of the economic sector. The NCC upcoming meeting on September 10th in Mogadishu will focus on the trust building to ensure the execution of detailed road map and plan of action for achieving the main national priorities.

On the security front, as outlined in the recent FGS implementation report on the Somalia Transition Plan that was submitted to the UN security Council on 10th July 2022, significant progress has been made on the implementation of the Somalia Transition Plan. Somali National Army continue to conduct offensive military operations against AS in the past three weeks where towns and villages were recovered in Hiiraan and Middle Shabelle regions.

As a result of the heavy defeats of AS, it has responded with desperate acts of terror against soft targets and civilian populations. This can be seen in AS's deliberate and indiscriminate attack against civilian population in the outskirts of Beledweyn on September 3rd killing 20 innocent civilians and burning seven vehicles transporting food amid severe drought in the country.

Despite the progress in the fight against AS, challenges remain, particularly in sustaining Somali security troops by UNSOS as the number of ATMIS locations and staff reduces by 2,000 in the first quarter of 2023.

The stabilization intervention's support in the transition phase is critical to consolidate operational gains made by the Somali Security Forces. Federal Government of Somalia has developed the local government's capacity for service delivery and increased legitimacy and strengthened ties with local communities. I would like to raise the following four points, which can pose a major challenge to the stabilization interventions.

First, UNSOS managed SNA Trust Fund has major structural issues as evidenced in the persistent shortfalls of the contribution in the last few years. On our part, we have witnessed delays in funds for quick impact projects, medical evacuation, and other weaknesses in the fund. Therefore, we stand ready in collaboration with donor partners to identify a medium-term alternative model for sustainment in this context.

Second, constant low level of recruitment of national Somalis in UNSOS remains unsatisfactory to Federal Government of Somalia. Therefore, we reiterate that observed discriminatory practices against Somali candidates or working Somali National Professional Officers is unacceptable.

Third issue is ATMIS food rations mismanagement. We are still observing UN tax exemption food rations in our markets. This is major concern since it impacts TCC/PCC's delivery of their mandate and it tarnishes the image of the UN as well as impacts the economy of Somalia, especially the livelihoods of Somali traders.

Fourth issue is UNSOS waste management. Not much has changed and the accidental spills and improper management of the waste continues to occur regrettably.

We reiterate our call to the Secretariat to remedy these outstanding serious issues in a timely manner.

The STP provides strategic direction for the exit of the ATMIS forces in the transition process to transfer security responsibilities to the SNA. In this context, planned activities won't succeed if the necessary international support, is not restructured properly and made available with suitable alignment to the realities on the ground, including investment in quick impact projects in recovered areas.

In fact, it is agreed that we receive at least equal level of support, and this is captured in the CONOPs in order to have a successful transition. We are committed to the implementation

of the STP and looking forward the continued, political, technical, and logistical support of all our valued partners.

Mr. President,

As you are aware, my country is facing protracted and recurring humanitarian crisis coupled with threat of flooding, Covid-19 pandemic, and global economic downturn. Early indications of the season October-November-December forecast point to yet another below average rainfall season. Our people's coping mechanism have been significantly eroded and are resorting to negative coping mechanism. We thank the humanitarian partners' generous recent appeal and contribution to assist in our response to life threatening needs. Nonetheless, we emphasize that humanitarian assistance alone cannot provide a sustainable or cost-effective solution to recurring climate shocks in Somalia as it requires substantial development and climate change mitigation investment while strengthening the nexus between humanitarian and developmental assistance. This will help us in achieving medium- to long-term solutions to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and target our most vulnerable citizens who are experiencing such vulnerability.

I thank you.